SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

2. Personnel and Veterinary Organization:

a. The more important and authoritative body of veterinarians is, of course, located within the Narodni Komissariat Zemlyedyel (Ministry of Agriculture, referred to as Narkomzem). Narkomzem, Moscow, assigns a chief veterinarian to each of the republics. Veterinary inspectors of Narkomzem are dispatched throughout the republics, oblasts and rayons. Each oblast and rayon is assigned a veterinary. The district veterinaries are provided with more facilities and in most cases each rayon has a Veterinarnaya Lyechebnitza (Veterinary Hospital). The rayons are divided into uchastke (smaller land areas) which do not rate a doctor of veterinary medicine, but are assigned feldschers.

b. Narkom Sovkhoz (Ministry of Sovkhozes) has its own veterinarians which it assigns to the Sovkhozes throughout the USSR.

c. Narkom Myesnoye Promyshlyenost (Ministry of Meat Industry) assigns its own veterinarians to slaughter houses where they serve as meat inspectors.

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(2) Assignments which included the need for veterinary science were handled by the Rayoniy Vrach, who was expected to maintain disease control. He was responsible not only for the livestock, but for whatever birds and fowls were found on the kolkhozes. 50X1

(a) Whenever an animal died an autopsy had to be performed before the animal could be removed. It was compulsory for a veterinarian to issue a certificate concerning the details of death of the animal.

50X1 (b) In practice, the issuance of death certificates by veterinarians
50X1 was based on autopsy results or findings, but in most cases, this was
50X1 very difficul
50X1
Since the rule for autopsies in each case makes a veterinarian partially responsible for losses of animals, he does not always submit true findings when diagnosing a particular disease. To preclude the possibility of being personally implicated and charged with sabotage the veterinary slants his diagnosis and findings thereby hoping to prevent action against himself or others who might be accused.

(c) Incidentally, if an animal died of injury, negligence or malnutrition, someone at the kolkhoz had to make restitution (as an example, a Khovkhoz cow is priced by the state and not the Khovkhoz). If in the veterinarian's conclusions after diagnosis, a cow has died of any of the aforementioned reasons, the kolkhoznik (kolkhoz worker) has to pay its value in money
50X1 or in kind. The money value is based on the free market rate.

50X1 (d) Whenever an infectious disease was evidenced immediately
50X1 notified the Nachalnik of Harshi (manager or mayor). His response to
50X1 information followed the form of a question "Did you notify Mr Bassanov?"
50X1 this was ironic for Mr Bassanov knew absolutely nothing about infec-
50X1 tious diseases among animals, for he was Secretary
50X1 of the Communist Party of the rayon.
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6. Competence of Veterinarians in Central Asia, USSR:

a. The Rayoniy Veterinary of Katta Kurgan, was considered one of the best in Central Asia. This fellow, a Korean (name not recalled) was sent to Korea for a short while after the Japanese surrendered in 1945. Several months later he returned to Uzbek. It was difficult to ascertain his true worth as a 50X1 veterinarian for he was a strong Communist. He may have been considered a good veterinarian because he was a good Communist.

b. The general level of competence is a difficult factor to evaluate, but the training received at the University of Samarakand was good. The application of this training, however, was not good, Dr Salahov being a perfect example. It must be remembered that in Central Asia the literacy level was lower than in other parts of the USSR. Salahov himself was not able to read or write until he was about 18 years of age. Most of the veterinarians were dishonest, which is typical of the Soviet regime children. There was too much bureaucracy and suspicion, consequently the battle for bread made cheaters out of many of them. Fear of blame caused many of them to sign to dishonest findings in autopsies, in fact, in a number of cases, autopsy certificates were signed without an autopsy being held -- anything to look good in the eyes of the local party secretary. 50X1

7. Shortages:

50X1 a. from 1941 - 46, the critical years of World War II, 50X1 it would be natural to blame shortages on the war economy of the USSR. However, during these years the existing 50X1 shortage was typical of the pre-World War II period. There was a shortage 50X1 of surgical instruments and pharmaceuticals in Samarakand and 50X1 throughout Central Asia.

b. There was a scarcity of qualified veterinary personnel in the USSR. This necessitated the filling of positions which called for the DVM by feldschers and sanitars (male nurses). Training received by the feldschers and sanitars was not on the highest level, but did fit them for general work at the Khovkhozes. In theory they were to handle only minor ailments and request the services of the district veterinarian but in some cases feldschers were able to treat the more common infectious diseases.

8. Infectious Diseases:

a. Central Asia was a region which contained 50X1 a great deal of malaria. [Off shoots of malaria as contracted by human beings was existent in animals in the form of piraplasmosis[sic]. Piraplasmosis was quite a problem, especially in cattle and horses. We had two types of piraplasmosis in my area:

50X1 (1) Theileriosis It appeared primarily in cattle. Symptoms of the disease were as follow: high fever, bloody urine, diarrhea or constipation. Post mortem findings included small hemorrhages in the visible mucous membranes which were yellowish and jaundiced. The internal organs of the animal also contained hemorrhages in the trachea, in the bowels, eyes and in the bronchial tubes. The spleen was enlarged.
(2) Piraplasmosis itself was prominent in horses and may have infected mules. The causes of the various forms of piraplasmosis were microscopic protozoa of the red blood corpuscles [sic]. The treatment for theileriosis was less effective than for piraplasmosis. In order to treat this disease we used a trypan blue solution which we injected intravenously in doses of one to three grams per animal. This disease was particularly widespread in 50X1 1945. Within the piraplasmosis family there are two other types, but they are not common in Central Asia, they are francaiellosis and babesiosis.

50X1 b. Toxemia - one day n the Andizhan Oblast, Voroshilov Rayon, 50X1 the sheep within the 50X1 province were dying of a peculiar disease. 50X1 that two strange men were seen in the 50X1 sheep pastures that morning sprinkling some solution on the grass - an excellant example of fear of sabotage or biological warfare. After the autopsy, findings and portions of the anatomy were sent to the diagnostic 50X1 laboratory in Andizhan.
50X1
50X1 (1) The following day that the 50X1 laboratory had diagnosed the disease as anthrax, dared defy the military 50X1 commission and the laboratory for the disease was toxemia.[sic] 50X1 Since the officials of the Soviet Union never err, received a telegram from 50X1 the laboratory which read "Bacteriological, biological and bacterioscopic 50X1 tests all reveal that the disease is anthrax". 50X1 A day or two later, received a 50X1 wire confirming the disease was toxemia.[sic] The laboratory admitted that it had erred, and had actually performed the test on the entrails of another animal and not the one dispatched to them.
50X1 (2) toxemia was transmitted by large ticks 50X1 which heavily infested the dirty wooden corrals.[sic]

c. Suiluk - (a non-scientific name adopted by DVMs in Samarakand)

50X1 (1) We discovered an infectious disease in the Andizhan area 50X1 was unknown to any other parts of the USSR. Since toxemia was

prevalent throughout the area, we originally believed it to be a form of toxemia, but as we saw more of this disease we discarded our original theory.
50X1 (2) This disease infected only horses, and strangely [redacted] the infected horses had subsisted at a certain altitude (height not recalled) 50X1
and in dry fields. The disease was found in those regions where straw had
50X1 lain in the fields after harvest [redacted] the straw which had been consumed by the horses had lain in these fields from five to six months).
(3) The disease affected the respiratory organs of the animals, primarily the lungs. The breathing becoming more and more difficult and eventual death of the animal followed. Subsequent autopsies revealed that the lungs were the recipients of the attack. Because of a development of interstitial tissue the lungs were so affected that they resembled a cow's udder. In
50X1 touching these lungs [redacted] they even felt like udder tissue. The disease developed slowly, losses were quite heavy with a predominance of fatalities during the summer months.
50X1 (4) Although no successful cure was discovered [redacted] certain professors suspected that the disease was caused by various type molds, which developed in the disintegrating straw and the residue of harvest.

d. Tetanus

(1) Tetanus was a very common disease in Central Asia and was prevalent primarily in horses. It was caused from saddle sores which were the result of a custom still practiced by many of the Mongols in the region - the Mongols did not remove the saddles from their horses for a number of days at a time. When the saddle was removed the horse would naturally roll in the dirt and grass thereby contracting tetanus.

e. Trypanosomiasis (sometimes referred to as suarau in Central Asia) [sic] - this disease, very prominent in the area, was found primarily in horses and
50X1 in camels, among which the death rate was extremely high. In order to treat
50X1 this disease, we used a Soviet preparation called Niyaganin. It was given
50X1 in doses of 0.01 per one kilo of body weight of the infected animal and was
50X1 injected intravenously. The results of recovery were remarkable. [redacted]
50X1 [redacted] what the preparation niyaganin [redacted]
50X1 it was brilliant green, a German dye product. Whenever [redacted] short of
50X1 niyaganin [redacted] a preparation [redacted] was sent [redacted] from the Department of
50X1 Veterinary Medicine in Moscow. [redacted] this pre-
50X1 [redacted] With
50X1 reference to trypanosomiasis in camels the outbreak and spread was quite
50X1 extensive in 1943. [redacted] first to discover that it was
50X1 existent in camels [redacted]
50X1 Soviet laboratory [redacted]
50X1 [redacted] discovered the trypanosomiasis parasite in the camel
50X1 blood. [redacted] the same medical formula which was being used for horses
50X1 and obtained excellent results. [redacted] because of the death of a
50X1 large number of camels a considerable number of Soviet officials had been jailed for sabotage.

f. Brucellosis - was very common among both cattle and sheep. The Soviet officials were very much perturbed by the spread of brucellosis in sheep, for sheep milk was widely used in making a cheese called Brindza.
50X1

g. Smallpox - was very common in sheep every year. [redacted]
50X1 [redacted] Smallpox was also pre-
50X1 valent in goats. Incidentally, [redacted] sheep could not transmit smallpox to goats or vice versa.

h. Foot and mouth disease - - - - foot and mouth disease was common among cattle and hogs.

i. Anthrax - this was an acute bacterial disease which attacked all species of
50X1 animals in Central Asia but [redacted], the Samarakand Oblast, was free of it because [redacted] guarded against it by vaccination.

j. Pleuromulmonia - This disease which primarily attacked goats, particularly the young, caused permanent damage to the surviving animals. [redacted] 50X1
50X1 [redacted] the killer was a virus. From its name you can
50X1 readily deduce that it was dominant in the pulmonary organs of the animal. The mortality rate was exceptionally high. The surviving animals did not develop properly appearing emaciated, lifeless and underdeveloped. This disease was unknown elsewhere in the USSR. The first symptom of pleuromulmonia was high fever. The remainder of the flock of goats was injected intravenously with neosalvarsan.

k. Dictocaulosis -

(1) Losses from this disease were extremely high in both sheep and goats.
50X1 [redacted] much of Central Asia was badly infected with it. The highest ranking authority on parasitology in the USSR, Prof Skryabin, now about 70 years of age, stated that dictocaulosis was the bane of the sheep industry in the USSR. Skryabin, who was a member of the Vhyerhovni Soviet and decorated by the order of Lenin, was himself unable to determine a cure
50X1 for this disease.
50X1 (2) [redacted] shocked at the vicousness of this disease, [redacted] losses in
50X1 many flocks [redacted] approximated 40% of the total. This disease which affected
50X1 the lungs was caused by a lung worm and was most difficult to treat. [redacted] used
50X1 tracheal injections of solutions of iodine and potassium iodide. This medicine originated in the Soviet Union.
50X1 (3) Although this disease was prevalent among sheep and goats, [redacted]
50X1 [redacted] a case [redacted] was discovered after a post-mortem on
50X1 a horse. [redacted] conducted the post-mortem at the University of Samarakand in order to point out the possibility of its spread to other animals. The administrative authorities of Central Asia were highly perturbed because of the extensive karakul industry in Samarakand and Bukhara.

l. Scabies -

50X1 (1) This disease was quite a problem in sheep and goats [redacted] It
50X1 attacked Angora goats primarily. At the oblast meetings [redacted] reached a conclusion
50X1 that the Angora species, because of the fine soft wool, were the primary victims of scabies. Besides scabies in sheep and goats it was found in horses and
50X1 camels. [redacted] were under constant pressure from the military to give preferential treatment to horses since the military was in dire need of these animals. For treatment of horses special gas chambers where the horses could be sprayed with sulphur gas were used.
50X1 (2) To treat sheep and goats, [redacted] adopted the most primitive methods
50X1 [redacted] prepared the solution in big cans and vats and poured it over the
50X1 animals. With reference to scabies [redacted] witness the big lie in the Soviet Union, for in their propaganda they deny the existence of this disease officially, but it does exist and is very common.

50X1 m. Black leg - is not uncommon. The usual medical measures against it included
50X1 the use of common and generally known vaccines. [redacted] immediately vaccinated
50X1 animals bearing this disease.

50X1 n. Tuberculosis - [redacted] where cattle were kept out of doors, TB was
50X1 extremely low and was not a problem. In fact [redacted] one year when [redacted] checked two thousand cattle for TB, [redacted] did not find a single case of it.
50X1

50X1 o. Foot rot - [redacted] never sure that the Soviet diagnosis of foot rot was authentic.
50X1 [redacted] watched for symptoms of mass limping among the flocks. Whenever such a situation occurred foot baths were given to the suspected animals. [redacted] used a solution of copper sulphate and creolin. [redacted] this disease is serious one for if grazing animals are affected with it they
50X1 are unable to walk and in many cases die of starvation rather than foot rot itself.

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p. Rinderpest -

50X1 (1) With reference to rinderpest in the USSR [redacted] of the 1941-46 period. [redacted] was one of the few diseases which the Soviets had eradicated or most certainly controlled very well within the borders of

the USSR. Between 1943-45 there was a serious outbreak of rinderpest on the Afghan border.

50X1 [redacted] the Soviet authorities were very much concerned.

50X1 The authorities [redacted] immediate mobilization of veterinarians, feldschers and sanitars. This personnel was given top priority to travel by rail to the Afghan border, in itself an unusual practice in the Soviet Union 50X1 for only the highest authorities are given such travel privileges.

(2) One [redacted] feldschers, a member of the mission which was dispatched to Afghanistan, told [redacted] that the disease was eliminated and that all animals suspected of being infected were immediately quarantined and then destroyed. He was not able to learn the nature of the medical preparations which were employed in treating rinderpest. The feldscher did say, however, that a vaccine was specially prepared and used by the veterinarians who worked with

50X1 the disease on the Afghan border.

(3) [redacted] there was no rinderpest in the USSR proper and definitely none in the Samarakand and the Uzbek areas.

9. Reasons for Infectious Diseases:

50X1 a. [redacted] the USSR does have a sound knowledge of infectious animal diseases and their treatments. Fear of the administration by those

50X1 working with livestock prompts them to have an ever existing concern for

50X1 animal losses through infectious disease.

50X1 b. [redacted] there is considerable change in administration in the USSR on the lower levels. No concise book or national statutes concerned with veterinary

50X1 methodology for the regions is in existence. [redacted] would receive directives from the authorities concerning methodology but several months later these directives would be rescinded by new administrators. Consequently the field men were unable to follow a policy pattern. [redacted] this poor organization and administration impeded qualified veterinarians in their endeavors to do a job.

c. Despite the many losses [redacted] attributed to various infectious diseases,

50X1 [redacted] much of the loss was due to a greater degree to mal-nutrition and improper care.

50X1 d. One constantly sees Soviet statistics on the lack of diseases and the large output of livestock. Sometimes visiting foreign dignitaries come back from the Soviet Union with glowing accounts of the especially fine livestock they had seen while visiting there. [redacted] on a certain occasion while

50X1 [redacted] in the Archangel area, visiting dignitaries were taken to a Sovkhoz

50X1 where they were shown prize Soviet cattle. Of course, the Soviet authorities explained to the visitors that this was typical of all cattle in the USSR. [redacted] however, [redacted] special concentrates in sugar beet toppings were fed these animals and [redacted] they were given special care for window-dressing purposes.

50X1 10. Anti-animal Biological and Chemical Warfare:

50X1 a. [redacted]

50X1 [redacted] the Government does not have to direct the people

50X1 to prepare for chemical warfare because of a natural suspicion which exists

50X1 among the Soviet citizens. [redacted] no matter what the cause of death might be in any animal, this cause is always questioned in the light of

50X1 possible sabotage against the Soviet State. 50X1

50X1

b. For military purposes during World War II each district veterinary hospital was provided with a special kit of anti-gas preparations. The materials

50X1 within the kit consisted of two small boxes of drugs and instruments which were to be used in the event of a gas attack. The primary concern was protection against yperite and other gases. [redacted] nothing was concentrated in the direction of preparation for anti-biological warfare.

c. As previously stated everyone is prepared to expect the worst in biological

50X1 warfare. Any spread of infectious diseases is considered not only a disaster, but is looked upon as a crime to be investigated and the perpetrator apprehended. As an example, during the period of purge in 1937, many innocent veterinarians were jailed or liquidated for alledgedly purposely spreading infectious diseases.

[redacted]

d. Whenever we held a veterinary meeting it was attended by the Nachalnik of the town, representatives from the district Communist Party headquarters, and, of course, a public prosecutor. The Nachalnik of the town would ask such questions of the veterinarian responsible for the area as "Tell me please Tovarish, why is your district behind in the quota?" or "Do you know, Tovarish, that 27 horses died in your area last quarter? What is your explanation?" Actually 50X1 the veterinarian was giving testimony which either cleared him or placed him 50X1 in a precarious position for he was on trial whether he was aware of it or not.

50X1 e. Another example [redacted] the Samarakand Oblast [redacted]
50X1 veterinarian [redacted] had been sent to prison for 10 years. [redacted]
50X1 [redacted] a foot and mouth disease had developed in the area with the result that
50X1 [redacted] had been accused of spreading the disease either through negligence
50X1 or wanton willfulness.

11. Research and Statistics:

a. The prevalent breed of sheep in Central Asia is karakul. In fact Uzbekistan, Tadzhikistan and Kazakhistan are the largest producers of karakul sheep in the USSR.

50X1 b. Artificial insemination - the Zavadovski method:
(1) [redacted] used a combination of SZHYK and hormones, equine gorradotropin, in order to increase the number of births per karakul sheep.
(2) Normal birth in karakul sheep is about 110 lambs per 100 mothers. By use
50X1 of the above method [redacted] increased the number of births to such extent that twins
50X1 and triplets were not uncommon. In fact [redacted] of several quadruple and quintuple births.
(3) The statistics issued by the USSR on the results of this Zavadovski method were a true picture of the birth rate. These statistics, however, failed to divulge the disasterous results to the sheep bearing these young, for the karakul mothers were not physically constituted to support multiple birth with the result that death among the mothers decreased the original yield by almost 50%.

50X1 c. Poultry and eggs: [redacted] the kolkhozes are given a production norm for
50X1 each year. Included within this norm [redacted] was a requirement that the kolkhozes were to provide the Government with 40 thousand chickens and a certain number of eggs as their share of the national norm. Of course, the Soviet Government in its national statistics showed how the Samarakand Oblast, for the glory of the Soviet Union, had exceeded its norm of 40 thousand chickens and eggs (number of eggs not recalled). But what the statistics failed to show was the human element involved. Many chickens had died, others had been stolen from the kolkhozes but the norm was met. In order to meet the norm each Kholkhoznik was deprived of his own chickens and eggs with absolutely no consideration for his welfare. In some cases kolkhozniks even went to the free market where they purchased eggs and chickens to meet the requirements. Thus the norm was always fulfilled.

50X1 d. Statistics on the animal mortality rate: [redacted]
the statistics on the low animal mortality rate because of infectious diseases in the USSR is untrue. Whenever a number of animals died because of infectious
50X1 diseases, malnutrition or some other cause, we veterinarians did not certify
50X1 that all the deaths were the result of one specific factor. Instead [redacted] would
50X1 try to break the figures down to show a variety of innocuous causes such as old
50X1 age, unavoidable accident, and etc. [redacted] the true picture
the authorities would single out an individual or a group which they could
50X1 charge with a crime against the Soviet State. [redacted] the glories
of the Soviet Union and their statistics were [redacted] the "Big Lie".
50X1 [redacted] in order to survive in the USSR, everyone must at some time or another lie.

12. Veterinary Education: 50X1

a. The University of Samarakand

(1) There are two schools of discipline at this university. One of these is the department of Agronomy and the other the Department of Veterinary Medicine.

number of students enrolled approximately 50X1
400 per year.

(2) Every year after the requirements were received from higher authorities 50X1
a recruiting campaign for students ensued. Top professors from the University of Samarakand would tour Central Asia extolling the virtues of veterinary science as a glorious career service in the USSR. There was no problem in attracting students and about 100 were enrolled 50X1
each year.

(3) The basic entrance requirement was the possession of a high school diploma of the dyesiat lyetka type (the 10 year certificate). The faculty 50X1
totaled about 15 professors.

(4) The number of graduate students was extremely small because of the dire need for DVMs. The DVM was graduated after a four-year residence. The degree of Docent was conferred on graduates after a two-year residence. The quality of students varied from poor to excellent.
upon a number of occasions
the students were more concerned with the norms of bread which they could receive on certain days than they were with the lecture. This was due primarily to undernourishment among the students. Laboratories were very poorly equipped with instruments and working facilities.

b. The faculty of Konyevodstvo (special schools for the handling and care of horses): As you know during World War II the Soviet army needed many horses for its military program. To meet this need a number of special schools was created. These schools were set up to teach the care, and breeding of horses. They were located in a number of the larger districts in Central Asia. Incidentally, the need for horses was so great during World War II that after the Soviet army had taken most of the domesticated horses from Central Asia it resorted to catching wild horses throughout the region 50X1

c. the Red Army has its own veterinary school in Moscow. This school
was considered the most outstanding in veterinary science 50X1
in the entire Soviet Union. some civilians were taken into this school and perhaps now a separate branch within the 50X1
Red Army school is in existence for civilians only.

See next page for Organization Chart

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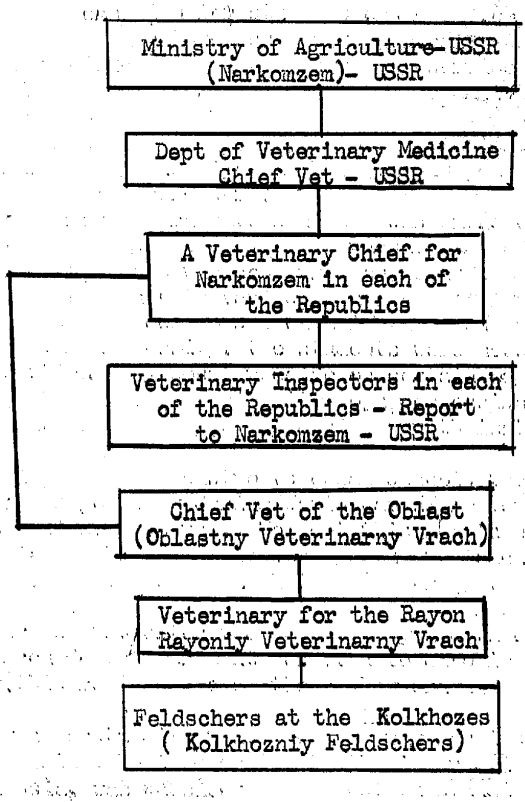
Organization of Veterinarians Under Narkomzem - USSR



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